

Bulletin: Guard and Handrail Design

Residential



Bulletin # 92-05
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Guards are physical barriers protecting dangerous fall areas and include but are not limited to railing systems, fencing and guards.

All Guard designs must conform to the British Columbia Building Code 2018 – section 9.8.

This information is provided for your convenience only and it should be clearly understood that you must satisfy all applicable Zoning Regulations and ensure that the premises conforms to the B.C. Building Code and all Bylaws/Regulations of the City of Kelowna.

- All guards 4.2m and higher above adjacent levels must NOT facilitate climbing including but not limited to; widely spaced horizontal members.
- Any guard required for fall protection where the structural components consist of glass panels is to be designed and sealed by a structural engineer verifying compliance with British Columbia Building Code section 4.1.5.14 "Loads on Guards and Handrails". These seals to make up part of your permit application.
- The City of Kelowna does NOT allow horizontal or vertical cables unless sealed by an engineer certifying that the cables will maintain a tension such as that it will not allow gaps larger than 4" along any section of the length, at any time. Such assurance is to be included as part of your permit application.
- Handrails at stairs and ramps are to be continuous for the length of the stair/ramp, around corners, at landings and winders.

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